

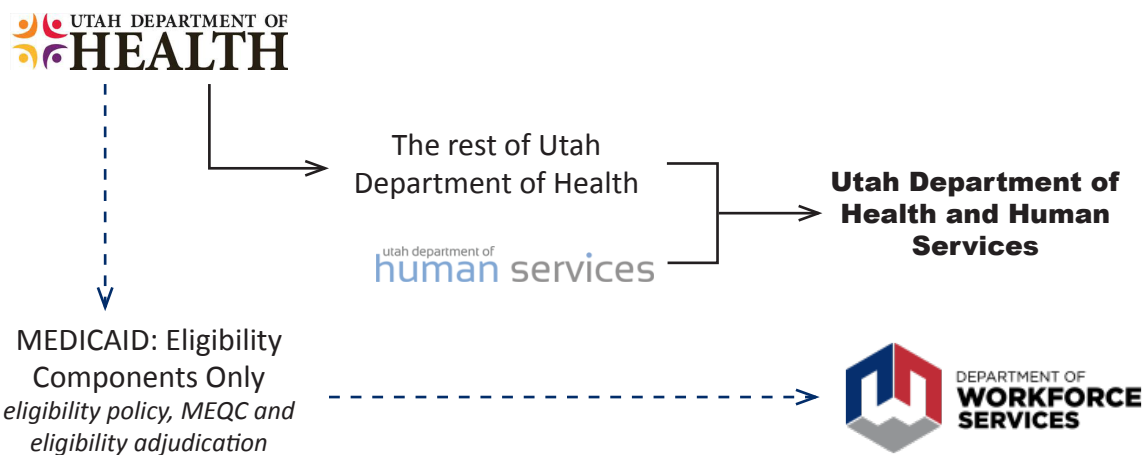


UTAH SOCIAL SERVICES CONSOLIDATION

A priority for Governor Spencer J. Cox and his administration is consolidating and realigning a number of state agencies. Consolidation will increase accountability and collaboration where there are shared and disparate responsibilities, and improve outcomes and delivery of services to the people of the state.

The Utah Department of Health (UDOH), the Department of Human Services (DHS), and the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) manage 36% of the entire state budget, which is more than the budgets of all other state agencies combined, except Education. These three social services agencies have identified synergies across their missions and programs and are recommended for consolidation.

CONSOLIDATION PROPOSED IN 2021 LEGISLATION (Implementation by July 1, 2022)



BILL CONSIDERATIONS

Resources

Personnel and financial resources to complete the merger

Timing

Agencies are actively engaged in the COVID-19 response

Study

Impacts on individual and family stability, efficient delivery of quality services, communities of color, and private providers and partnerships

- Agency approaches, structures and funding requirements
- Public, partner, staff and customer input
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Metrics to track customer experience, outcomes, efficiencies

Legal

Updates to code, policies, contracts and agreements; local, state and federal compliance

BENEFITS OF SOCIAL SERVICES CONSOLIDATION

Efficacy: Improve outcomes for families	Experience: Reduce complexity of the customer experience	Efficiency: Identify and remove duplicative practices, programs, and infrastructure
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accelerates efforts to reduce intergenerational poverty by strengthening an integrated care approach in prevention and service delivery• Brings together in one agency the shared mission of improving lives and delivering essential services• Maintains eligibility requirements for federal funding and service delivery across social services programs• Enables better case management and outcomes by improving data access across multiple programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduces wait time for case coordination• Simplifies and streamlines families' access to services• Ensures consistent systems, delivery and access to Medicaid eligibility, recovery of third party payments, and enrollment of waiver providers• Preserves non-eligibility portions of Medicaid with public health• Improves communication and public tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Combines expertise in physical health and population strategies with human services delivery• Joins programs in areas of prevention, mental health, substance use disorders, domestic violence, disease control, family health and preparedness, suicide, adult and children's health• Provides a single access point for county/locally-run systems (health, behavioral health, and aging)• Improves and aligns legislative and public accountability through auditing measures and data collection